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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between Farm Security Administration  
and Soil Conservation Service

With Reference to the Water Facilities Program, 50 Stat. 869, as Amended

- I. In accordance with the provisions of General Departmental Circular No. 39:
- A. The Soil Conservation Service has adjusted its functional organization to provide facilities for appropriate consideration of proposed activities and operations, together with related research in the water conservation, utilization, management, and disposal fields, and will make these facilities available to the Farm Security Administration in connection with its operation of the Water Facilities Program.
  - B. The Farm Security Administration, in its administration of the Water Facilities Program, wishes to obtain from the Soil Conservation Service certain technical information, data, and consulting advice about various proposed water facilities developments.
- II. In order to arrive at a working arrangement for FSA to utilize the facilities available in SCS, it is mutually understood that:
- A. When FSA desires information on any water facilities installation, project or area, the FSA Regional Director (or his designee) will contact the appropriate SCS Regional Conservator (or his designee) and in consultation they will determine the type and extent of investigation and report necessary to assist FSA in determining the desirability of authorizing operations under the Water Facilities Program.
  - B. The following types of information, as mutually agreed upon, may be furnished to FSA by SCS:
    - (1) Basic data on (a) water supply and water use, (b) water rights, (c) possible groundwater development, (d) geology, (e) soils and land use capabilities, (f) interpretation of available information about the water requirements of various crops and the probable maximum amount that can be paid for water applied to them, and (g) other related matters on which SCS has information;
    - (2) Recommendations on the utilization of the available water and land resources;
    - (3) Recommendations on the practicability of proposed developments as a guide to FSA in arriving at a decision on the water facilities assistance to be made available;
    - (4) Advice on the known activities and interests of other agencies, organizations and individuals in the project or area which might affect the proposed development.
  - C. The information will be incorporated in an appropriate memorandum or report and submitted by the SCS Regional Conservator (or his designee) to the FSA Regional Director (or his designee).

*Frank H. Hucceck*  
Farm Security Administration  
July 27, 1944

*J. C. Dykes*  
Soil Conservation Service  
July 27, 1944







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Field Memorandum No. 1104

Re: Assistance to Farm Security  
Administration in the Water  
Facilities Program

July 31, 1944

TO ALL RANKING FIELD OFFICERS:

The Secretary of Agriculture and the War Food Administrator recently outlined (General Departmental Circular No. 39) a coordinated plan for carrying out activities in the water field by various Departmental agencies.

In accordance with this plan, the Soil Conservation Service and the Farm Security Administration have developed an arrangement (see attached Memorandum of Understanding of July 27, 1944) by which the Service will give certain assistance to the Farm Security Administration helpful to that agency in its administration of the Water Facilities Program. There is attached a copy of the Farm Security Administration letter to its regional offices which outlines the procedure to be followed by that agency in obtaining assistance from the Service.

In further accordance with Circular No. 39, the Service has established a Water Conservation Division under the Chief of Operations to give particular attention to water problems. This Division will devote such time as is required to furnish the technical information, data and consulting advice desired by the Farm Security Administration. As worked out at the conference in Denver, July 6-10, 1944, the Farm Irrigation Division (research) personnel will cooperate in providing this assistance.

A request for Service assistance will come from the Farm Security Administration Regional Director (or his designee) to the appropriate Regional Conservator (or his designee) for discussion of an application received by the Farm Security Administration for water facilities assistance, with a view to helping the Farm Security Administration determine whether or not any further investigation of it is necessary. If, after discussing the case, the Farm Security Administration Regional Director, decides that it is necessary, he and the Regional Conservator, or their representatives, in consultation, will determine the type of information to be obtained by the Service, and the type and extent of investigation and report required. In the preparation of a report, the need and extent of work or consultation with other interested agencies and persons will be determined by the Service. Such working relations should be for the purpose of advising others who may be concerned of proposed activities under the Water Facilities Program and to obtain information that might be useful to the Farm Security Administration. The nature and results of these relations will be included, in detail, in the report to the Farm Security Administration. After operations are authorized, Farm Security Administration will make such additional contacts as are required.



The regional offices should request assistance as desirable and necessary from the Washington office regarding any technical or policy question which may arise in connection with Service participation in investigational work and the preparation of reports for the Farm Security Administration. Copies of all reports furnished the Farm Security Administration will be sent to the Chief of Operations Washington.

If you have not done so already, Regional Conservators and State Conservationists should take immediate steps to insure that all Service field officers are familiar with General Departmental Circular No. 39, and plans of this agency to carry out our part of its provision.

The following is a list of Farm Security Administration Regional Directors, and their addresses, concerned with the operation of the Water Facilities Program.

Cal A. Ward 13th & N Streets Lincoln 8, Nebraska	Region VII	North Dakota, South Dakota Nebraska and Kansas
E. Lee Ozbirn Parry Avenue at Commerce St. Dallas 1, Texas	Region VIII	Oklahoma and Texas
R. W. Hollenberg 30 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco 2, California	Region IX	California, Utah, Nevada and Arizona
Floyd F. Higbee (acting) 950 Broadway Denver 3, Colorado	Region X	Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana
Walter A. Duffy Terminal Sales Building Portland 5, Oregon	Region XI	Washington, Oregon and Idaho
Ray E. Davis (acting) U.S. Post Office & Court House Amarillo, Texas	Region XII	New Mexico, and parts of Texas and Oklahoma

*J. C. Dykes*  
Acting Chief



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
Washington 25, D. C.

July 27, 1944

To: REGIONAL DIRECTORS IN REGIONS VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII

From: Administrator

Subject: Methods to be Used in the Investigation of Proposals for Development under the Water Facilities Program

Proposed facilities for the development and utilization of water need to be carefully considered to determine their practicability and probable effect upon the farmers and ranchers they are intended to serve before construction is initiated, in order to be sure that only sound developments are undertaken.

Recently the Secretary of Agriculture and the War Food Administrator outlined (General Departmental Circular No. 39) a coordinated plan for carrying out activities in the water field by various Departmental agencies.

Pursuant to this plan, FSA and SCS have developed an arrangement (see attached Memorandum of Understanding of July 27, 1944) by which SCS will make certain services available to FSA to assist it in administration of the Water Facilities Program. In this connection, there is enclosed a copy of the SCS letter to its regional offices outlining the procedure its field people are to follow in making their services available. The SCS will in the future furnish FSA essentially the same type of service which in the past FSA has obtained from the Conservation Programs Branch.

Water Facilities operations, in cases such as are described in Administration Letter 711, will continue to be authorized in accordance with the procedures outlined and authorities delegated in that letter. Authorization of operations for all other applications located outside of presently approved areas will in the future be obtained in accordance with the following procedure:

1. Upon receipt of an application, FSA will make an appropriate investigation to determine (a) the basic eligibility of the applicant to receive Water Facilities assistance, (b) whether or not the proposed facility is of a type authorized under the Water Facilities Program, and (c) whether it is probably possible to handle the case within the authorized loan limits of the Water Facilities Program.
2. Thereafter, any application that appears to deserve further consideration will be discussed with the appropriate SCS Regional Conservator (or his designee). The FSA Regional Director (or his designee) will then determine whether or not to request any further investigation and a report by SCS. If he decides to request such an investigation and report, he and the SCS Regional Conservator, (or his designee) in consultation, will determine the type and extent of investigation and report required and the information to be obtained in accordance with the July 27, 1944 memorandum of understanding with the SCS. In some instances SCS may not need to make an investigation because it may have information already assembled from which a report can be prepared. In such instances the Regional Director (or his



2. designee) and the SCS Regional Conservator (or his designee) in consultation will determine the information to be included in the report. All reports will be routed in accordance with paragraph 4 hereof.
3. Concurrently with the investigation by SCS, a related investigation should be made by FSA as to (a) the families to be benefited, (b) the legal aspects of the case, (c) economic feasibility of proposed developments, (d) engineering and construction aspects, (e) an estimate of the amount of loan required, and (f) other pertinent matters.
4. When the report is received from SCS it should be studied in connection with information assembled by FSA as outlined above and a decision made by the FSA Regional Director as to whether operations are considered to be desirable. The Regional Director will forward to the Administrator the SCS report and information assembled by FSA for all cases which he recommends for authorization of operations under the Water Facilities Program.
5. The Administrator will notify the Regional Director by appropriate notice of approval of operations or of other action taken.
6. Appropriate contacts with other interested agencies and persons will be made by SCS insofar as necessary in the course of its investigations. The results of these contacts will be included in their report. It will be the responsibility of the FSA personnel to make additional contacts, as required, after operations are authorized.
7. Except as modified by this letter, the present procedure for carrying out the Water Facilities Program shall be followed.

Attached is a list of the SCS personnel with whom contacts may be made together with the states for which they have responsibility.

Frank Harrison

Following are the names referred to above:

Mr. L. P. Merrill                      Region 4  
Regional Conservator  
3500 Claiborn Rd.  
Fort Worth 1, Texas

Mr. Cyril Luker                      Region 6  
Regional Conservator  
Box 1348  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Mr. Arthur E. McClymonds              Region 5  
Regional Conservator  
Rudge & Guenzel Building  
Lincoln 1, Nebraska

Mr. John H. Christ                      Region 7  
Regional Conservator  
520 SW Yamhill Street  
Portland 11, Oregon